



# City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall  
400 La Crosse Street  
La Crosse, WI 54601

## Meeting Minutes

### Human Rights Commission

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Tuesday, July 7, 2020

5:15 PM

Teleconference-Lifsize

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#### Call to Order

A video recording of this meeting can be viewed at:  
<https://playback.lifsize.com/#/publicvideo/39a14c34-e68a-40d0-a479-e766a52c0a03?vcpubtoken=69c1464b-2623-4b67-bd61-403a7e234956>.

Nese Nasif announced her resignation. Meeting began at 5:20 PM.

#### Roll Call

#### Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Perrine, seconded by Turner to approve the minutes of the last 3 meetings.

#### Agenda Items:

- 1 Follow up/wrap up from our call with Rep. Kind and movement on the legislation discussed

The HR Commission discussed that he was a sponsor of the Choke-Hold Ban. There was discussion on reparations at the meeting. Kind also supported a broader legislation and he was a sponsor of the legislation and passed.

## 2 City of La Crosse municipal budget considerations

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*The Commission returned to this agenda item after discussing the Mayor's response to protester questions.*

*They agreed to revise the statement to include a request for the City to gather more community input, consider emerging priorities (particularly with regard to racial equity and justice), study community impact, and revise the plan for the development accordingly. The Commission suggested having an increased and more robust/substantive social media presence. Nasif discussed student project to assist with creating a marketing plan for the HRC including a more accessible webpage or website of its own as well as an increased social media presence.*

**A motion was made by Perrine, seconded by Maye-Cates, that this be ADOPT ACTIONS BY SINGLE VOTE . The motion carried by voice vote. The following statement was made: "The Human Rights Commission hopes that the Common Council will delay its approval of the current version of the Capital Improvement budget. Members of the community have expressed significant concern regarding the project in the following areas:**

- Fair allocation of city resources
- Perceived need for the planned facility and;
- Impact on the community.

**There have been drastic changes to community priorities across the nation over the past several months. We ask that the City take additional time to gather community input/feedback, consider emerging priorities, and adapt the plan for the Community Safety Complex accordingly."**

## 3 The Mayor's responses to questions from the protesters (Nese and Chauncy Report)

*McDermid thought that GARE needs to do an analysis for the City. Commissioners were not aware of the planning being done for a town hall meeting, and were interested in being involved in it. There was general consensus that the Mayor's responses to protestors lacked specific goals, plans, metrics and measures.*

## 4 Discuss Town Hall and select commissioner for panel on homelessness.

*Discussion focused on the community response to homelessness during COVID and the lack of shelter. This item will be discussed as a part of a special meeting to be organized by Chairperson Turner and City Staff.*

## 5 A recommendation/statement from the HRC on SRO's in schools, defunding the police in our community

*Referred to a future meeting.*

## 6 Discuss the city's comprehensive plan changes and ideas on ways the HRC can help shape it.

*Referred to a future meeting.*

- 7 Response to the needs of the homeless in our community during the pandemic

*Referred to a future meeting.*

- 8 Consideration of future staffing needs for the Human Rights Commission

*Referred to a future meeting.*

## **Adjournment**

**Perrine motioned to adjourn the meeting at about 7:45 pm, a commissioner seconded. The motion carried by a voice vote.**

*Notice is further given that members of other governmental bodies may be present at the above scheduled meeting to gather information about a subject over which they have decision-making responsibility.*

### **NOTICE TO PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY**

*Requests from persons with a disability who need assistance to participate in this meeting should call the City Clerk's office at (608) 789-7510 or send an email to [ADAcityclerk@cityoflacrosse.org](mailto:ADAcityclerk@cityoflacrosse.org), with as much advance notice as possible.*

In an effort to keep members of the public, City staff and Council Members as safe as possible from the spread of COVID-19, the committee meetings will be conducted through video conferencing.

The meetings can be viewed using the following link:

<https://stream.lifesizecloud.com/extension/2091040/c5d52e74-4bb5-4c01-b9aa-3fbf8677ebf4>

Members of the public who would like to provide comments on any agenda item are encouraged to submit them in writing prior to the respective meeting. Written comments should be submitted to Jason Gilman at [gilmanj@cityoflacrosse.org](mailto:gilmanj@cityoflacrosse.org), dropped in a drop box outside of City Hall or mailed to the City Planning Department, 400 La Crosse Street, La Crosse WI 54601.